

Applicant: Wegert et al.
Application No.: 10/686,018

Claims 1-12 are drawn to an appliance door gasket with a formed-in-place gasket material for an appliance. Claims 13-20 claim an appliance including a formed-in-place gasket. Claims 21-33 claim a method for manufacturing a formed-in-place gasket.

A restriction requirement based on distinction is proper if the inventions are distinct and a serious burden on the Examiner exists in examining the application. Applicants respectfully submit that no serious burden exists in examining all of the claims in the application. The inventions of claim groups I, II and III, as separated by the Examiner, are so inter-related as to require a same field of search. Consequently, no serious burden exists. As such, examination of all of the pending claims together would be more efficient than separating the claims for examination in different applications.

In the Action it was further indicated that an election of claim Group I would be subject to a six-way election of species. Applicants elect Species A, corresponding to Figures 1 and 2, without traverse, for examination on the merits. Claims 1-9 read on the elected Species A.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of all of the pending claims. If for any reason the Examiner believes that an interview, either telephonically or in person,

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would advance prosecution of the application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to arrange an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

Wegert et al.

By 

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